

**OFFICE OF SENATOR ROBERT A. O'LEARY**  
**CAPE AND ISLAND DISTRICT**  
**STATE HOUSE, ROOM 413E**  
**BOSTON, MA 02133**  
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August 14, 2001

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary  
Department of Telecommunications and Energy  
One South Station  
Boston, MA 02110

**Re: Commonwealth Electric Company, D.T.E./D.P.U. 90-3C/91-80-A**

Dear Secretary Cottrell:

I am writing to express my support for the goals of the Enhanced Outreach Program filed by the Attorney General. It is imperative to take steps to assist low-income citizens with their basic living needs, such as utility bills, in as many creative ways as possible. The program takes an important step toward achieving this.

On Cape Cod, the Lower Cape Outreach Council and the Cape Cod Times Needy Fund provide critical financial assistance to low income residents on the Cape. Keeping electricity available to clients is one part of their services, and this program will provide some resources to allow them to continue assisting our most vulnerable citizens with the increased costs of energy. Increasing participation in energy efficiency programs also helps more and more customers realize savings through conservation measures. Moreover, the budget counseling information can provide an excellent foundation for residents to be informed of long-term planning goals to utilize if and when they have more discretionary income available.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my Chief of Staff, Allison DiGrande, or me.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT A. O'LEARY  
State Senator  
Cape & Islands District